Dear Drinking Water Utilities,

The Indiana Finance Authority (IFA) is pleased to announce new funding opportunities available to water utilities seeking assistance in completing a Lead Service Line (LSL) *Inventory*. The IFA recognizes that all Non-transient Non-Community Water Systems and all Community Water Systems are required to submit a LSL inventory prior to October 16, 2024, which is the Environmental Protection Agency's compliance deadline for the <u>Lead & Copper Rule Revisions</u>. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management will collect LSL data using its LSL Inventory reporting template and online reporting portal; this template and its instructions can be found <u>here</u>. To assist Indiana water systems with Lead Service Line Inventory needs, the IFA will offer three different funding paths:

- All Non-transient Non-Community Water Systems (NTNCWS) and Community Water Systems (CWS) with less than 1,000 service connections will have access to a free LSL Inventory Technical Assistance Program managed by the Alliance of Indiana Rural Water. With financial support from the IFA, the Alliance and its partners will offer free training and hands-on assistance completing inventories. More information about the program and how to obtain assistance will be featured on Alliance's website in Spring of 2023. See the "Alliance" box in Figure 1.
- 2. **All CWS** pursuing financial assistance from the <u>Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan Program</u> can add the cost of LSL Inventory work to their applications. See the "SRF" box in Figure 1.
- 3. **CWS with greater than 1,000 service connections** are eligible for IFA's LSL Inventory Funding Program, which is the focus of this correspondence. See the "IFA" box in Figure 1.

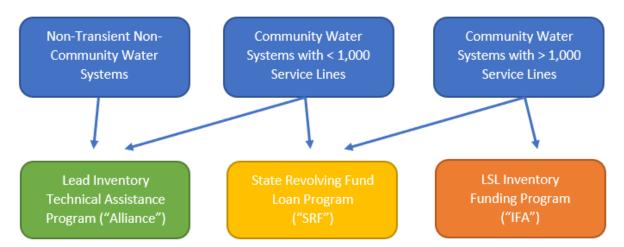


Figure 1: IFA's three funding paths for assistance with Lead Service Line Inventory work. Arrows indicate that utilities can apply to muliple programs at the same time.

<u>The IFA Lead Service Line (LSL) Inventory Funding Program</u> will be offered in two Rounds of to ensure communities have time to develop eligible projects. Approximately \$7,000,000 will be available in total

for both of the rounds. The Round 1 application period will be open from April 24, 2023 to June 9, 2023. The application period for Round 2 opens February 5, 2024.

The IFA has set up the LSL Inventory Funding Program in such a way that every utility that submits an application for eligible work will be awarded non-competitive funding for certain Project Types as long as appropriate application materials are submitted. The funds for the IFA LSL Inventory Funding Program will be distributed by Project Type and a utility's number of service connections. The funding levels are the maximum amount a utility can apply for in the IFA LSL Inventory Funding Program (which means in aggregate for Round 1 and Round 2). See IFA LSL Guidance for more information.

For certain Project Types, the IFA will enter into a Professional Services Agreement with the Service Provider selected by the utility. This arrangement allows utilities to work with a Service Provider of their choice without having to encumber debt or administer a grant. Utilities will be asked to identify a Service Provider (i.e., third-party consultant, etc.) at the time of application and submit Scope of Work Certification signed by both Service Provider and utility, which ensures all parties agree to the project.

Please review the IFA LSL Inventory Guidance and FAQs for more information about the Program.

The IFA will also be hosting two webinars on the IFA's LSL Inventory Funding Program for CWS > 1,000 service connections on Thursday, April 6, 2023 at 2:00pm Eastern Time and Tuesday April 18, 2023 at 2:00pm Eastern Time. Registration links will be posted to this website on April 3, 2023. Slides will be posted on the IFA website following the sessions.

For more information about:

- 1. The Alliance's Lead Inventory Technical Assistance Program for NTNCWS and CWS <1,000 service connections, please contact the Alliance via their website.
- 2. The <u>Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan Program</u>, contact Brett Roberts at broberts@ifa.in.gov
- 3. The IFA's LSL Inventory Funding Program for CWS > 1,000 service connections, please review the materials we provide on the IFA's website and then contact LSLIgrants@ifa.in.gov.

Thank you,
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